

WE CLAIM:

1. A system for providing access to a data file stored at a digital cellular switch, comprising:

a digital cellular switch capable of communicating via a digital control interface and operative to store said data file; and

an operations and maintenance platform processor communicatively coupled to said digital cellular switch via said digital control interface operative to receive a request for said data file and to retrieve said data file from said digital cellular switch via said digital control interface.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein said digital control interface comprises a high-capacity inter-processor communications channel between said digital cellular switch and said operations and maintenance platform processor.

3. The system of Claim 2, wherein said digital control interface further comprises a pair of dual series channel cables communicatively connected between said digital cellular switch and said operations and maintenance platform processor.

4. The system of Claim 3, wherein said digital cellular switch is electrically coupled to one or more communications trunks and wherein said data file comprises a trunk database.

5. The system of Claim 4, further comprising a second operations and maintenance platform processor dedicated to performing operations and maintenance functions with respect to said digital cellular switch.

6. A method for retrieving a data file stored at a digital cellular switch, comprising:

receiving a request at an operations and maintenance platform processor for said data file stored at said digital cellular switch;

transmitting a request for said data file from said operations and maintenance platform processor to said digital cellular switch via a digital control interface communications link; and

in response to said request, receiving said file at said operations and maintenance platform processor from said digital cellular switch via said digital control interface communications link.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising determining whether said digital control interface communications link is available to provide a communications link between said digital cellular switch and said operations and maintenance platform processor prior to transmitting said request.

8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising providing a prompt for a filename identifying said data file.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising receiving said filename and transmitting said filename as a part of said request.

10. A method for storing a data file at a digital cellular switch, comprising:
receiving a request at an operations and maintenance platform processor to store said data file at said digital cellular switch; and
in response to said request, transmitting said file from said operations and maintenance platform processor to said digital cellular switch via said digital control interface communications link.

11. The method of Claim 10, further comprising determining whether said digital control interface communications link is available to provide a communications link between said digital cellular switch and said operations and maintenance platform processor prior to transmitting said data file.

12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising providing a prompt for a filename identifying said data file.

13. The method of Claim 12, further comprising receiving said filename and transmitting said filename to said digital cellular switch prior to transmitting said data file.

14. An apparatus for retrieving a data file stored at a digital cellular switch, comprising:

a processor;

a memory;

a digital control interface coupled to said processor and operative to provide a communications link to said digital cellular switch;

a software component stored in said memory and capable of executing on said processor, said software component operative to receive a request for said data file and to retrieve said data file via said digital control interface in response to said request.

15. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein said digital control interface comprises a high-capacity inter-processor communications channel between said digital cellular switch and said apparatus.

16. The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said digital control interface further comprises a pair of dual series channel cables communicatively connected between said digital cellular switch and said apparatus.

17. The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said software component is further operative to receive a request to store said data file at said digital cellular switch and to transmit said data file to said digital cellular switch via said digital control interface in response to said request.

18. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 6.

19. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 10.